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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Item 26 of the preliminary list*
COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN
MILITARY FORCES FROM THE
TERRITORIES OF THE BALTIC STATES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 3 March 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the text of a statement dated 3 March 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania in response to a statement released by the Russian Federation on 2 March 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 26 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anicetas SIMUTIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/49/50.

Annex

Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Lithuania

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, closely following the course of negotiations between Estonia and the Russian Federation, is greatly concerned by the Russian statement of 2 March 1994, in which the Russian Federation indicates its refusal to withdraw its military forces from the territory of the Republic of Estonia by the date previously agreed upon by the two sides (31 August 1994), and its intention instead to follow its own determined timetable.

The Republic of Lithuania reaffirms its position that the withdrawal of Russian military forces from Estonia and Latvia must comply with the requirements of the international community, as defined by General Assembly resolutions and paragraph 15 of the "Helsinki Document 1992 - the Challenges of Change", adopted by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Lithuania fully supports Estonian efforts to secure the most rapid possible withdrawal of Russian military forces, and expresses its hope that both sides will find mutually acceptable means to renew negotiations, leading to a withdrawal of Russian military forces from Estonia by 31 August 1994.

Vilnius, 3 March 1994